UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/2002/156
25 March 2002

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 9

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD

Note verbale dated 7 March 2002 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to transmit herewith the texts of a statement of the Parliament of the Republic of Azerbaijan, an appeal to the United Nations by the surviving inhabitants of Khojaly and an appeal to the peoples of the world, heads of States, Parliaments and international organizations by the Chairman of the Supreme Spiritual Council of the Peoples of the Caucasus on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the genocide in Khojaly.

The Permanent Mission would highly appreciate the dissemination of the above-mentioned texts* according to the established procedure of the United Nations.

---

* Reproduced as received, in English and Russian only.

GE.02-11968 (E) 260302

Annex *Unofficial translation from Azerbaijanian*

STATEMENT

of the Milli Mejlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Tenth Anniversary of Khojaly Genocide

These days the tenth anniversary of Khojaly genocide is being commemorated in Azerbaijan with profound grief. This brutal and merciless genocide act entered the history of humankind as one of the awful terror events.

On 26 February 1992 the armed formations of the Republic of Armenia, the local Armenian militants in Nagorno-Karabakh and 366 motor-shooting regiment of the former Soviet Army perpetrated act of genocide, indelible disgrace to the humanity, devastating the city of Khojaly of Nagorno-Karabakh – the integral part of Azerbaijan. Within several hours 613 civilians, including 63 children, 106 women, 70 old people were brutally killed, being subjected to unbearable tortures only just because they were Azerbaijanians, 487 people were heavily injured, 1275 inhabitants – helpless old people, children, women were taken as hostages and exposed to unbelievable sufferings, abuses, insults. The Armenian militants skinned the scalps, cut off different organs of the people they killed, put out the eyes of the small children, ripped the abdomens of the pregnant women, buried or burnt alive people.

The criminal neglect of Ex-President Ayaz Mutallibov and other leaders of that time created conditions for the Armenian nationalists to perpetrate this awful tragedy. As a consequence of the mutual accusations and political strife between the opposition and the power, the defense of Khojaly was not duly organized and no help was given to the civilians of the city.

The traits and scope of the terrible crime perpetrated in the city of Khojaly witnesses the entire conformity of this act of genocide with the provisions set forth in the Convention "On Prevention and Punishment of Crime of Genocide" adopted by the UN General Assembly resolution 260 (III) dated December 9, 1948.

Being the manifestation of the terror policy against the independence and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, this mass and cruel massacre is a brutal crime committed against not only the Azerbaijanians, but also all the

humanity. While perpetrating this genocide in Khojaly the Armenian nationalists intended to frighten the Azerbaijanian people defending their primordial lands from invaders, to strangle their will of struggle.

Unfortunately, at the end of the XX century when the civilized co-existence dominating among the states, the fact of violation of the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, the expansionist war and ethnic cleansing conducted by the Republic of Armenia with an aim to realize its territorial claims to the neighboring country was ignored by the world community and no efficient international measures have been taken to curb the aggressor.

It is because of the impunity of occupant Armenia 20 per cent of the territory of our country – Nagorno-Karabakh and 7 adjacent districts have been occupied by the Armenian armed forces, over 1 million Azerbaijanians have been driven out from their primordial homes.

Ignoring the UN Security Council's four resolutions (822, 853, 874 and 884) concerning the withdrawal of the occupant forces from the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the documents of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Budapest, Lisbon and Istanbul summits of the OSCE the Republic of Armenia refuses to recognize the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. The camps were set up in the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh in order to train the terrorists both from Armenia and the other countries and to perpetrate new crimes against the people of Azerbaijan. The proceeds made from drug trafficking and circulation, trafficking in arms are being used here for terror purposes.

The genocide and terror against the people of Azerbaijan and other neighboring countries has become a state policy in Armenia. All the conditions have been created in this country for unrestricted functioning of the local and international terror organisations using all the vile means in order to carry out the purposes of the Armenian nationalists.

Within a period more than the past hundreds years several generations of the Armenian people were brought up in the spirit of nationalistic superiority, hostility against the Azerbaijanian and other peoples. The tragic results of this hatred ideology are well known from the history.

Since the end of the XIX century under the protection of powerful states the Armenian nationalists pursued the delirious idea of creating "The Great Armenia", killed hundreds of thousands innocent Azerbaijanians perpetrating mass terror acts and massacres in Caucasus with an aim to

conduct cleansing of the indigenous people in the claimed territories. In 1905-1907 in Iravan and Zangazur (nowadays in the territories of the Republic of Armenia), Tiflis, Baku, Nakhchivan, Ganja, Karabakh, in 1918-1920 in Baku, Shamakhy, Guba, Mughan and Lenkoran the civilians were brutally massacred.

The hostile policy against the Azerbaijanian people was also continued during the Soviet power. With the help of the pro-Armenian leadership of the USSR about half million Azerbaijanians were deported or driven out, hundreds of Azerbaijanians were killed on the ground of their nationality on a short period of time in 1948-1953, as well as in 1988-1989. As a result of this bloody and brutal policy of Armenians over two million Azerbaijanians were subjected to ethnic cleansing and genocide in different times. Today there is no Azerbaijanian residing in Armenia. Armenian nationalists achieved their aim and turned Armenia to a mono-ethnic state.

From the very beginning the genocide and deportation policy against Azerbaijan was followed by a large-scale information war. With the efforts of the Armenian "scientists" the whole history of the Caucasus was forged, the Armenians' history was exaggerated and presented as an ancient history, severe moral aggressive company was conducted against the Azerbaijanians. The events taking place in the Caucasus was intentionally distorted and "suffering, miserable and suppressed Armenian people" image was created to deceive the world community. The Armenian nationalists made up an idea as if they were subjected to genocide in 1915 in order to veil the policy of hostility and genocide perpetrated against the people of Azerbaijan, to justify their territorial claims against the neighboring states and as well as the expansionist war and the Armenian international terrorism that they chose as a means for realizing these claims. Thereby this genuine aggressor and criminal tries to confuse the international community presenting itself as a victim.

It is very strange that, the parliaments of some countries closing their eyes to the real genocide fact known as Khojaly tragedy, took the legend of "Armenian genocide" up to discussion, even adopted unjust decisions ignoring the historical truths. This is one of the reasons why the Armenian side brought to naught till today the efforts of settlement of the Armenian-Azerbaijanian, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict by peaceful means.

The Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan believes that the world community should finally call the aggressor by its name, help to liberate

the Azerbaijani territories occupied by the Republic of Armenia and return the refugees and internally displaced people to their native lands.

The Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan calls on the United Nations Organisations, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and other international organisations, the parliaments and the governments of the world countries to recognize and condemn Khojaly genocide against the Azerbaijanian people organized by the leadership of the Republic of Armenia and perpetrated by the Armenian nationalists, who with its help illegally seized the power in Nagorno-Karabakh, spare no effort for just solution of the Armenian-Azerbaijanian, Nagorno-Karabakh conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law.

The terrible crimes such as Khojaly genocide should not stay unpunished. The Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan states that the State of Azerbaijan will ensure the restoration of its territorial integrity using all the existing opportunities, achieve the genuine international legal-political assessment of Khojaly tragedy and duly punishment of its ideologists, organizers and executors.

The Statement was adopted at the meeting of the Milli Majlis on 26 February 2002

- - - - -